

Amendment to the Claims:

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

1. (currently amended) A grip for attachment to a sport stick having a shaft, one end of the shaft having an opening extending longitudinally into the shaft along a longitudinal axis, the grip comprising:
 - a grip core having a hilt portion and one or more grooves formed in the hilt portion, ~~at least one of the one or more grooves~~ each groove having a depth that varies along a length of that groove;
 - an elongated grip portion covering one end of the grip core and the one or more grooves, the elongated grip portion having a hilt sized for being grasped by a hand; and
 - an insertion portion extending from one end of the grip core, the insertion portion being sized to provide close insertion into the opening at the one end of the shaft, the elongated grip portion extending lengthwise from the one end of the shaft approximately along the longitudinal axis defined by the shaft of the sport stick when the insertion portion is inserted into the opening of the shaft.
2. (previously presented) The grip of claim 1, wherein the one or more grooves includes at least two grooves with different lengths.
3. (previously presented) The grip of claim 1, wherein the one or more grooves extends from the hilt portion into a knob portion of the grip core.
4. (previously presented) The grip of claim 1, wherein the one or more grooves formed in the hilt portion of the grip core each extends along a partial length of the hilt portion.

- 1 5. (original) The grip of claim 1, wherein the hilt has a curved longitudinal
2 surface that conforms to a curvature of a palm of the hand.
- 1 6. (original) The grip of claim 1, wherein the hilt has a diameter that is
2 smaller than a corresponding cross-sectional dimension of the shaft of
3 the sport stick.
- 1 7. (original) The grip of claim 1, wherein the hilt has a diameter that is as
2 large as or larger than a corresponding cross-sectional dimension of the
3 shaft of the sport stick.
- 1 8. (original) The grip of claim 1, wherein the grip portion includes a guard
2 portion at the one end of the hilt.
- 1 9. (original) The grip of claim 1, wherein the grip portion includes a knob at
2 one end of the grip portion.
- 1 10. (original) The grip of claim 1, wherein the hilt has an indentation in a
2 surface for receiving one or more fingers when the palm of the hand
3 presses against the longitudinally curved surface.
- 1 11. (canceled)
- 1 12. (original) The grip of claim 1, wherein the insertion portion and the grip
2 portion are constructed of different materials.
- 1 13. (currently amended) A grip for attachment to a sport stick having a shaft,
2 the shaft having an opening at one end extending longitudinally into the
3 shaft along a longitudinal axis, the grip comprising:
4 a hilt having a longitudinal dimension sized for being grasped by a
5 hand; and

means for connecting the hilt to the shaft, the connecting means including a grip core and an insertion portion, the grip core having a hilt portion and one or more grooves formed in the hilt portion, ~~at least one of the one or more grooves~~ each groove having a depth that varies along a length of that groove, the insertion portion being inserted into the opening at the one end of the shaft, the hilt extending lengthwise from the one end of the shaft approximately along the longitudinal axis defined by the shaft when the insertion portion is inserted into the opening.

14. (previously presented) The grip of claim 13, wherein the one or more grooves includes at least two grooves with different lengths.

15. (previously presented) The grip of claim 13, wherein the one or more grooves extend from the hilt portion into a knob portion of the grip core.

16. (previously presented) The grip of claim 13, wherein the one or more grooves formed in the hilt portion of the grip core each extends along a partial length of the hilt portion.

17. (original) The grip of claim 13, wherein the hilt has a curved longitudinal surface that conforms to a curvature of a palm of the hand.

18. (original) The grip of claim 13, wherein the hilt has a diameter that is smaller than a corresponding cross-sectional dimension of the shaft of the sport stick.

19. (original) The grip of claim 13, wherein the hilt has a diameter that is as large as or larger than a corresponding cross-sectional dimension of the shaft of the sport stick.

20. (original) The grip of claim 13, wherein the hilt has a curved longitudinal surface that conforms to a curvature of a palm of the hand.

21. (original) The grip of claim 13, further comprising means, disposed at the one end of the hilt, for guarding the hand grasping the hilt.

22. (original) The grip of claim 13, further comprising means for restricting the hand from sliding off the hilt.

23. (original) The grip of claim 22, wherein the restricting means includes a knob at the other end of the hilt.

24. (original) The grip of claim 22, wherein the restricting means includes ridges on a surface of the hilt.

25. (original) The grip of claim 16, wherein the hilt includes means for receiving one or more fingers when the hand grasps the hilt.

26. (currently amended) A hockey stick, comprising:

a hockey stick shaft having an opening at a first end, the opening extending longitudinally from the first end into the shaft along an longitudinal axis; and

a grip having a grip core, an insertion portion and a grip portion, the grip core having a hilt portion and one or more grooves formed in the hilt portion, ~~at least one of the one or more grooves~~ each groove having a depth that varies along a length of that groove, the insertion portion being inserted into the opening at the first end of the hockey stick shaft, the grip portion covering one end of the grip core and the one or more grooves and having a hilt with a longitudinal dimension sized for being grasped by a hand of a user, the hilt extending approximately along the

13 longitudinal axis defined by the shaft and having a curved surface along
14 a length of the hilt that conforms to a curvature of a palm of the hand.

1 27. (previously presented) The hockey stick of claim 26, wherein the one or
2 more grooves includes at least two grooves with different lengths.

1 28. (previously presented) The hockey stick of claim 26, wherein the one or
2 more grooves extend from the hilt portion into a knob portion of the grip
3 core.

1 29. (previously presented) The hockey stick of claim 26, wherein the one or
2 more grooves formed in the hilt portion of the grip core each extends
3 along a partial length of the hilt portion.

1 30. (original) The hockey stick of claim 26, wherein the hilt has a curved
2 longitudinal surface that conforms to a curvature of a palm of the hand.

1 31. (original) The hockey stick of claim 26, wherein the hilt has a diameter
2 that is smaller than a corresponding cross-sectional dimension of the
3 shaft of the hockey stick.

1 32. (original) The hockey stick of claim 26, wherein the hilt has a diameter
2 that is as large as or larger than a corresponding cross-sectional
3 dimension of the shaft of the sport stick.

1 33. (original) The hockey stick of claim 26, further comprising a fastener
2 securing the insertion portion of the grip to the shaft.

1 34. (original) The hockey stick of claim 33, wherein the fastener is an
2 adhesive.

35. (original) The hockey stick of claim 26, further comprising a hockey stick blade attached to a second end of the shaft.

36. (original) The hockey stick of claim 26, wherein a longitudinal length of the hilt is sized for being grasped by a gloved hand.

37. (original) The hockey stick of claim 26, wherein a longitudinal length of the hilt is sized for being grasped by a bare hand.

38. (original) The hockey stick of claim 26, wherein the grip portion includes a guard portion at the one end of the hilt.

39. (original) The hockey stick of claim 26, wherein the grip portion includes a knob at one end of the hilt.

40. (canceled)

41. (currently amended) A sport stick, comprising:
a shaft having an opening at a first end, the opening extending longitudinally from the first end into the shaft;
a grip having a grip core, an insertion portion and a grip portion, the grip core having a hilt portion, a knob portion at one end of the hilt portion, and one or more grooves formed in the knob portion, ~~at least one of the one or more grooves~~ each groove in the knob portion terminating before reaching the hilt portion, the insertion portion being inserted into the opening at the first end of the shaft, the grip portion covering one end of the grip core and the one or more grooves and having a hilt with a longitudinal dimension sized for being grasped by a hand of a user, the hilt having a curved surface along a length of the hilt that conforms to a curvature of a palm of the hand.

1 42. (canceled)